

**THE LOUISIANA GROUND WATER RESOURCES COMMISSION**

**5th MEETING  
SUMMARY**

**Monday, March 7, 2005**

**Prepared by:**

**The Department of Natural Resources**

**Office of Conservation**

**Ground Water Resources Division Staff**

**Commission members in attendance:**

Scott Kirkpatrick, Chairman

James H. Welsh, Commissioner of Conservation

Steve Chustz, Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality

Zahir "Bo" Bolourchi, Louisiana Department of Transportation & Development/Water Resources

Darwin Knochenmus, Capital Area Groundwater Commission

Richard Durrett, Sparta Ground Water Conservation

John Roussel, Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries

Linda Walker, League of Women Voters

Karen Irion, Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals

Brad Spicer, Louisiana Department of Agriculture & Forestry

Stan Fulcher – Louisiana Department of Economic Development

Fulbert L. Namwamba – Geologist/Engineer

Bill Cefalu – Police Jury Association

Len Bahr – Governor's Office on Coastal Affairs

Jackie Loewer – Chicot Aquifer

**Call to Order – Governor's Office**

Mr. Kirkpatrick called the meeting to order and asked the Commission members introduce themselves.

**Ground Water Staff Activities**

Mr. Duplechin gave an overview of the Ground Water Resources Division's activities since the last Commission meeting, which included his attendance at the first ever joint meeting of the Louisiana and Texas Sabine River Authorities. Mr. Bill Walter of the Ground Water Resources Division staff gave a brief report on his independent study of the water level decline and the saltwater encroachment in the Sparta Aquifer.

**Old Business**

No decision was announced regarding the Sparta Draft Order. Commissioner Welsh indicated the decision would be made in the near future.

Mr. Timothy Seiler gave a report on the draft proposed language for the creation of regional water bodies.

It was requested that copies of a report on the reservoir permitting process be posted on the Division's web page or e-mailed to the Advisory Task Force members for their additional input.

The proposed change in the definition of "Large Volume Well" was withdrawn.

**New Business**

Commissioners were asked to define their concerns about what is lacking in the C. H. Fenstermaker report, define what direction to take in accomplishing the development of a water management plan, and what existing options are available then e-mail this information to Mr. Anthony Duplechin.

Mr. Louis Buatt, General Counsel for the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, reported on the ground water certification process by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality.

**Comments**

The timeframe for a decision on the Sparta Application was discussed.

The Chicot Aquifer Stakeholder's Group (CASH) members are waiting for the language for regional water bodies to be promulgated before the group becomes a formal entity.

A Sierra Club representative stated the group remains opposed to any new reservoirs in the state before there is a formal groundwater management plan in place.

**Schedule for the next Meeting**

The dates of Monday, May 16<sup>th</sup> and Monday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> were discussed as tentative dates for the next meeting. Scott Kirkpatrick asked the commissioners to send an e-mail to Tony Duplechin if they have conflicts on either of those dates.

**Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:00 P.M.